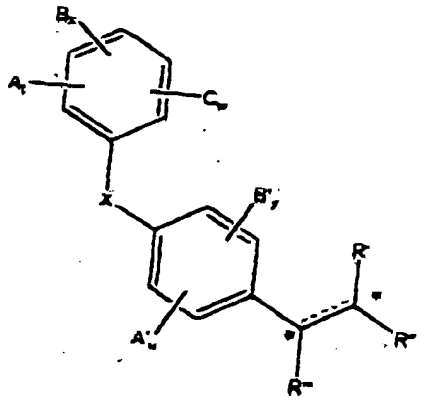
Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula II:



wherein stereocenters * are R or S;

dotted lines indicate that a double bond ~~may be present or~~ is absent~~, and the double bond geometry may be E or Z~~;

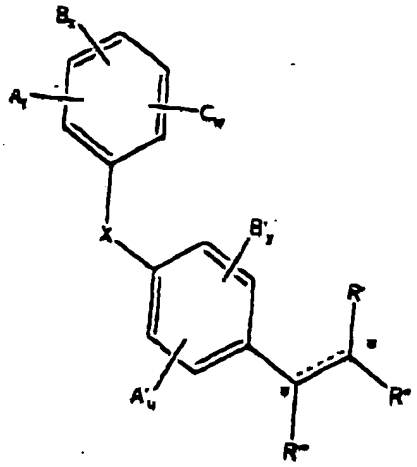
A, A', and C are ~~independently~~ ~~H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and t, u, and w are independently integers from 0 to 3;~~

B and B' are ~~independently~~ ~~H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, C_6-C_{20} aroyl, C_6-C_{20} araalkanoyl, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and x and y are independently integers from 0 to 3;~~

R', R'', and R''' are independently H or ~~C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl groups which may contain substituents, COOH~~, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl~~, NH_2, $CONH_2$, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, OH, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, halo or cyano.~~; and

~~X=NH, O, S, S=O, or SO_2.~~

26. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing a blood glucose lowering effective amount of a compound of the formula II in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.



wherein stereocenters * are R or S;

dotted lines indicate that a double bond ~~may be present or~~ is absent~~, and the double bond geometry may be E or Z~~;

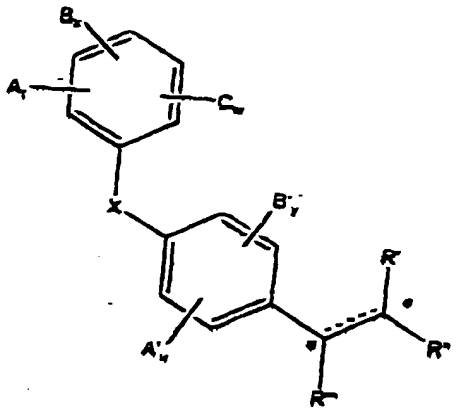
A, A', and C are ~~independently~~ H, ~~C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and t, u, and w are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

B and B' are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, C_6-C_{20} aroyl, C_6-C_{20} araalkanoyl, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and x and y are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

R', R'', and R''' are independently H or ~~C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl groups which may contain substituents, COOH,~~ C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl~~, NH_2 $CONH_2$, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, OH, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, halo or cyano~~; and

~~X=NH, O, S, S=O, or SO_2~~.

27. (Currently amended) A method for lowering blood glucose in a subject comprising administering to said subject an effective blood glucose lowering amount of a composition of the formula II.



wherein stereocenters * are R or S;

dotted lines indicate that a double bond ~~may be present or~~ is absent~~, and the double bond geometry may be E or Z~~;

A, A', and C are ~~independently~~ H~~, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and t, u, and w are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

B and B' are independently ~~H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenoyl C_1-C_{20} alkenyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy; C_6-C_{20} aroyl, C_6-C_{20} araalkanoyl, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and x and y are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

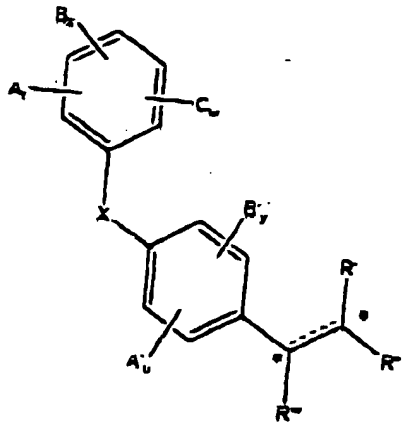
R', R'', and R''' are ~~independently~~ H or ~~C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl groups which may contain substituents, COOH~~, C_1–C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl~~, NH_2, $CONH_2$, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, OH, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, halo or cyano,~~; and

~~X=NH, O, S, S=O, or SO_2~~.

28-30. (Withdrawn and cancelled).

31-46. (Cancelled).

47. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing a serum triglyceride lowering effective amount of a compound of the formula II in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier



wherein stereocenters * are R or S;

dotted lines indicate that a double bond ~~may be present or~~ is absent~~, and the double bond geometry may be E or Z~~;

A, A', and C are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and t, u, and w are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

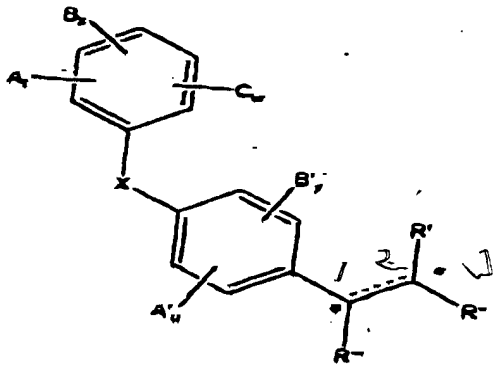
B and B' are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenyl C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkoxy, C_1-~~

~~C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, C_6-C_{20} aroyl, C_6-C_{20} araalkanoyl, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and x and y are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

R', R'', and R''' are ~~independently~~ H or ~~C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl groups which may contain substituents, COOH,~~ C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl~~, NH_2, $CONH_2$, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, OH, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, halo or cyano.~~; and

X = ~~NH, O, S, S=O, or SO_2~~.

48. (Currently amended) A method for lowering serum triglyceride in a subject comprising administering to said subject an effective serum triglyceride lowering amount of a composition of the formula II.



wherein stereocenters * R or S;

dotted lines indicate that a double bond ~~may be present or~~ is absent~~, and the double bond geometry may be E or Z~~;

A, A', and C are ~~independently~~ H, ~~C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy; carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and t, u, and w are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

B and B' are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, C_6-C_{20}~~

~~aroyl, C_6-C_{20} aroalkanoyl, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and x and y are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

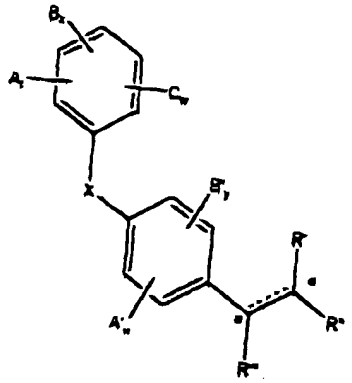
R', R'', and R''' are independently H or ~~C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl groups which may contain substituents, COOH,~~ C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl~~, NH_2, $CONH_2$, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, OH, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, halo or cyano.~~; and

X = ~~NH, O, S, S=O, or SO_2.~~

49-50. (Withdrawn and cancelled).

51-66. (Cancelled).

67. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing a blood pressure lowering effective amount of a compound of the formula II in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.



wherein stereocenters * are R or S;

dotted lines indicate that a double bond ~~may be present or~~ is absent~~, and the double bond geometry may be E or Z~~;

A, A', and C are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and t, u, and w are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

B and B' are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, C_6-C_{20} aroyl, C_6-C_{20} araalkanoyl, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and x and y are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

R', R'', and R''' are independently H or ~~C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl groups which may contain substituents, COOH~~, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, ~~NH_2, $CONH_2$, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, OH, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, halo or cyano.~~; and

X = ~~NH, O, S, S=O, or SO_2.~~

68. (Currently amended) A method for lowering blood pressure in a subject comprising administering to said subject an effective blood pressure lowering amount of a composition of the formula II

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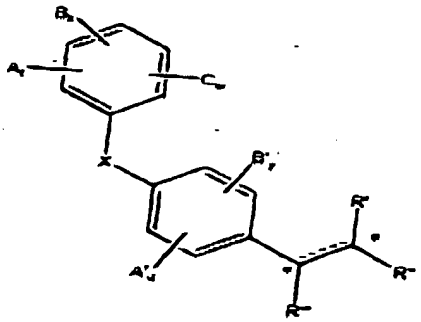

wherein stereocenters * are R or S;

dotted lines indicates that a double bond ~~may be present or~~ is absent~~, and the double bond geometry may be E or Z~~;

A, A', and C are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy; carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and t, u, and w are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

B and B' are ~~independently H, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenoyl, C_1-C_{20} alkenyl C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkoxy, C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkylamino, C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino, C_1-C_{20} carbalkoxy, C_6-C_{20}

~~aroyl, C_6-C_{20} aralkanoyl, carboxyl, cyano, bromo, chloro, fluoro, or hydroxy; and x and y are independently integers from 0 to 3~~;

R', R'', and R''' are independently H or ~~C_1-C_{20} linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl groups which may contain substituents, COOH~~, C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl~~, NH_2, $CONH_2$, C_1-C_{20} acylamino, OH, C_1-C_{20} alkoxy, halo or cyano.~~; and

X = ~~NH, O, S, S=O, or SO_2~~.

69-70. (Withdrawn and cancelled).

71. (Cancelled).

72. (New) The compound of claim 25 wherein said alkoxycarbonyl is methoxycarbonyl.

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73. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 26 wherein said alkoxycarbonyl is methoxycarbonyl.

74. (New) The method of claim 27 wherein said alkoxycarbonyl is methoxycarbonyl.

75. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 47 wherein said alkoxycarbonyl is methoxycarbonyl.

76. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein said alkoxycarbonyl is methoxycarbonyl.

77. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 67 wherein said alkoxycarbonyl is methoxycarbonyl.

78. (New) The method of claim 68 wherein said alkoxycarbonyl is methoxycarbonyl.